8-17-68

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE MATTER OF	
Employers Insurance of Wausau,	Docket No. TSCA-V-C-62-90
and	
Group Eight Technology, Inc.,	Docket No. TSCA-V-C-66-90
Respondents	

ORDER SETTING HEARING DATE AND DENYING MOTIONS FOR CLARIFICATION

By orders issued July 30, 1993, I denied Complainant's motions for accelerated decision in each of the above-captioned cases. 1/Upon review of the pleadings I was of the view then, and I remain of the view now, that it would be helpful for me to hear this case before deciding the liability issue.

By motions dated August 10, 1993, Complainant seeks orders from the undersigned identifying which of Complainant's proposed findings of fact (18 in one case and 25 in the other case) are in dispute.

Counsel for the parties are encouraged to enter into whatever stipulations are possible as to matters that are not in dispute. I will not undertake that task. If the parties cannot reach such stipulations, then it is the right and prerogative of counsel to proceed with whatever evidence it believes is necessary to support its position.

The July 30 orders denying Complainant's motions do not mean that Respondents are without liability. The hearing that has been ordered will provide the judge a first-hand opportunity to hear testimony of witnesses concerning the circumstances and events described in the pleadings. This testimony will be helpful in understanding and deciding the liability issue.

In light of the above, the Complainant's August 10, 1993 motions for clarification are denied.

By separate order issued that same day, I consolidated the cases.

The hearing in this proceeding will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 1993, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in Chicago, Illinois.

This is to put the parties on notice that the failure of any party to meet this date will be grounds for either a default judgment against Respondent(s) or a dismissal of the Complaint(s).

These cases have been pending since mid-1990. The prehearing exchanges in these cases have been completed. Unless a settlement is reached prior to October 12, 1993, the hearing will proceed as scheduled. The unavailability of counsel or witnesses, or the asserted need for continued settlement discussions, will not constitute grounds for further delay. The parties have had ample opportunities to settle this matter.

The Regional Hearing Clerk shall make arrangements to obtain appropriate hearing accommodations and services of a reporter to transcribe the proceedings. The undersigned's office shall be notified upon completion of these arrangements. When a hearing facility is acquired, a further order will issue advising the parties of the location and addressing other pertinent matters associated with the proceeding.

// Jon G. Lotis

Administrative Law Judge

Dated: August 17, 1993 Washington, D.C. IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYERS INSURANCE OF WAUSAU, Respondent, Docket No. TSCA-V-C-62-90, and IN THE MATTER OF GROUP EIGHT TECHNOLOGY, INC., Respondent, Docket No. TSCA-V-C-66-90

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing Order Setting Hearing Date and Denying Motions For Clarification, dated August 17, 1993, was sent in the following manner to the addressees listed below:

Original by Regular Mail to:

A. Marie Hooks
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604

Copy by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to:

Counsel for Complainant(s): Richard Wagner, Esq.

Associate Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency, Region V

77 West Jackson Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60604

Counsel for Respondent(s):

Frederick S. Mueller Johnson & Bell, Ltd. 222 North LaSalle Street Suite 2200 Chicago, Illinois 60601

John L. Christensen, Esq. Lopatin, Miller Law Firm 1301 East Jefferson Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48207-3197

Stacia Hyde-Eason

Legal Technician, Office of
Administrative Law Judges
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dated: August 17, 1993 Washington, D.C.